

INTRODUCTION

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The H.A. Clark Memorial Field Master Plan update is being financed as a cooperative effort between Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), the Arizona Department of Transportation, Aeronautics Division (ADOT), and the City of Williams, Arizona. The master plan is a comprehensive analysis of airport needs and alternatives with the purpose of providing direction for the future development of this facility.

The Master Plan for H.A. Clark Memorial Field must address the specific needs of the airport, evaluate its role within the regional airport system, and recommend future development projects. The City of Williams, as the airport sponsor, recognizes the importance of aviation in long-term planning and the associated challenges inherent in providing for future aviation needs. With a sound and realistic Master Plan, H.A. Clark Memorial Field will continue its role as both an economic asset and a source of pride to the residents of the Williams area.

AIRPORT USERS

The FAA currently defines three broad categories of aviation activity: air carrier, general aviation, and military. Air Carriers are those airlines that provide scheduled carriage of passengers or freight under restricted permits issued by the FAA. Air Carriers may be divided into two major groupings.

- > **Certificated Route Air Carriers** - An air carrier engaged in interstate or overseas transportation under a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity issued by the DOT. Certain non-scheduled or charter operations may also be conducted by these carriers, all passenger carriers, and combination carriers operating under Federal Aviation Regulation (FAR) Part 121 certificates.
- > **Air Taxi or Commercial Operators** - Operators of airplanes with a maximum seating (excluding pilot) of

30 passengers or a maximum payload capacity of more than 7,500 pounds. They operate under FAR Part 135 certificates.

General aviation includes every type of civil flying other than certificated air carriers and military. General aviation flying or usage falls into four major categories:

- > **Business** - The use of an aircraft for executive or business transportation. This category consists of aircraft used by an organization and operated by professional pilots to transport its employees and property (not for compensation or hire), and aircraft used by an individual for transportation required for his or her business.
- > **Commercial** - The use of an aircraft for commercial purposes (other than the commuter and air carrier), including: air taxi, aerial application, special industrial usage, aerial surveys, advertising, aerial photography, and emergency medical transportation.
- > **Instructional** - The use of an aircraft for flight training under the supervision of an instructor.
- > **Personal** - The use of an aircraft for a variety of personal reasons.

General aviation is the largest and the most significant element of the national air transportation system. According to the National Plan of Integrated Airport Systems (NPIAS) 1990-1999, general aviation aircraft constitute 98 percent of all aircraft in use today. Certificated airlines serve fewer than 700 airports in the country, while there are over 16,000 general aviation airports in the country. General aviation provides the time saving link for corporate travel that has

made the shift to smaller communities feasible and extremely attractive.

STUDY OBJECTIVES

Because the airport belongs to the public and is intended to serve the entire region, a comprehensive analysis of the airport and the surrounding area will be made. To accomplish the objectives of this study, the Master Plan will supply the following:

- > **Inventory of Existing Conditions** - Assemble and organize relevant information and data on H.A. Clark Memorial Field and the surrounding area.
- > **Forecast** - Develop detailed projections of future air traffic, by quantity and type.
- > **Facility Requirements** - Identify the facility requirements needed to meet projected demand for the airport for existing, short, intermediate, and long term time frames.
- > **Airport Alternatives** - Produce concepts of the various alternatives for airport development.
- > **Airport Layout Plan** - Refine the recommended airport development concept into the airport's plan for development.
- > **Financial Plan** - Prepare a capital improvement program to assist in the implementation of the recommended development plan. Establish development priorities, schedule proposed development items, and estimate development costs.

One of the most important elements of the planning process is the direct involvement of those parties who could potentially be most affected by the results of the study. This is accomplished through the use of a Planning Advisory Committee (PAC), which reviews the work of the study team. In addition, a public information meeting will be held prior to the completion of the Master Plan Study, providing the public with an opportunity to present comments or concerns. With the assistance of local input, the Master Plan for H.A. Clark Memorial Field will reflect the necessary future development needed to meet the growing aviation demands of both the community and the region.

THE AIRPORT'S ROLE

H.A. Clark Memorial Field is classified in the **National Plan of Integrated Airport Systems, 1990-1999**, as a General Aviation Airport.

This Master Plan study will examine and consider all of the activities currently taking place at H.A. Clark Memorial Field and strive to produce a plan that will support all airport users, and meet the needs of the community.